

# WASHINGTON STATE

## EMERGENCY OPERATIONS OFFICER

### MONTHLY REPORT

#### September - 2005

CATEGORY	2005	2004	YTD 05	YTD 04
CSEPP INCIDENTS	4	3	60	34
DOE INCIDENTS	0	1	5	8
FIRE	21	17	242	303
HAZMAT	167	152	1572	1452
OTHER	33	24	257	215
911 OUTAGES	3	5	32	24
SAR	45	54	447	456
TERRORIST	0	0	0	0
WEATHER	3	4	51	54
CGS INCIDENTS	0	0	2	1
TOTAL	276	261	2668	2547

#### LEGEND

CSEPP	Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program
DOE	Department of Energy, Hanford Site
SAR	Search and Rescue Missions
HAZMAT	Hazardous Materials Incidents
WEATHER	Weather Incidents (throughout state, i.e., Flood, High Winds, and Snow)
CGS	Columbia Generating Station
FIRE	Forest Fire Incidents
OTHER	This category includes a wide variety of incidents, i.e., Tsunami, Earthquake, Critical Incident Stress Debriefings, Bomb Threat, etc...
911	911 Service Outages

#### SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- On September 1, Mason County commenced a search for 4 children, ages 5, 6, 11 and 13 who went for an after-dinner walk in the woods at Potlatch State Park and failed to return. Additional ground searchers and dog teams from Pierce, Kitsap and Grays Harbor Counties responded to a call for additional assistance. Helicopters from Snohomish and King Counties assisted in the search. The children were located late on September 2<sup>nd</sup> by King County's helicopter and reunited with their parents in good condition.

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- On September 1, the Washington State EOC activated to Phase II Enhanced Operations effective at 0800 hours in order to coordinate Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) support as received from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for Hurricane Katrina. The EOC subsequently activated to Phase III effective at 1400 hours September 5, 2005 to coordinate activities relating to Operation Evergreen, a Washington State effort to host up to 2,000 people from the Gulf Coast disaster area.
- On September 8, the EOC assumed Phase II Enhanced Operation effective at 1800 hours continuing EMAC support for Hurricane Katrina. Additionally at 1900 hours a Fire Service Mobilization Request was approved for a 100 acre fire in the Squaw Creek Drainage of Okanogan County near Methow. The Squaw Creek Fire threatened 20 structures in the immediate vicinity at the time of approval. As of this report EMD's EOC remained at phase II enhanced in support of Hurricane Katrina and Rita.
- On September 9, Douglas County requested National Guard helicopter support for the removal of 10,000 marijuana plants located in a remote valley. The plants were cut down by the evening of the 9<sup>th</sup> and removed by helicopter the next day.
- On September 11, State fire assistance ended for the Squaw Creek Fire in Okanogan County. The fire burned over 1,400 acres, threatened 20 structures, and destroyed 1 home. The State EOC ended Phase II Enhanced Operation for this fire effective at 0600 hrs September 11.
- On September 11, Snohomish County conducted a rescue of an injured 20 year-old male climber on Bearing Mountain south of Index. Additional mountain rescue personnel were coordinated from King, Skagit and Olympic Mountain Rescue Unit. The injured hiker was successfully packed out of the area early the same day.
- On September 19, at 0439 hours, an Amber Alert was issued for two abducted children from Salem Oregon believed to be possibly heading for Vancouver or Kelso Washington. The Amber Alert was cancelled at 1714 hours the same day and then re-issued at 1855 hours that evening. On the morning of September 20<sup>th</sup> at 0948 hours the alert was cancelled. Further investigation revealed that the children were taken with consent.

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- On September 29, the National Weather Service issued a Flood Warnings for the Snohomish River in King and Snohomish Counties. Followed on September 30, by a Flood Warning for the Puyallup River in Pierce County. Both Flood Warnings were terminated as rains subsided during the day on September 30<sup>th</sup>.
- For the month of September 2005 the SEOO's:
  - Issued 2 warnings to jurisdictions for imminent or occurring emergencies
  - Issued 0 warnings to tribal nations for imminent or occurring emergencies
  - Conducted 706 notifications to state agency liaisons for imminent or occurring emergencies
  - Coordinated 28 resources for search, rescue, recovery and response operations
  - Participated in 18 exercises of which 9 were vessel spill drills
  - Made 1,423 and answered 1,866 telephone calls
  - Conducted 1,888 National Warning System Tests, conducted 249 Comprehensive Emergency Management Network (CEMNET) radio tests. (connects all counties and many cities via Zetron Radio Console)
  - Conducted 55 dedicated line tests with the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program (CSEPP)
  - Conducted 5 dedicated line tests with the Department of Energy, Hanford Site (DOE)
  - Conducted 5 dedicated line tests with the Columbia Generating Station (CGS)